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Practitioner's Docket No. 5699-23

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Forbes, James W.
Application No.: 09/705,506 *09/705056* Group No.: 3617
Filed: 11/02/2000 Examiner: Jules, P.
For: DROPPED DECK CENTER BEAM RAIL CAR

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

1. Transmitted herewith is an amendment for this application.

STATUS

2. Applicant is other than a small entity.

EXTENSION OF TERM

3. The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.136 apply.
Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 (fees: 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(1)-(4)) for two months:

Fee: \$400.00

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R. 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

MAILING



deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

FACSIMILE



transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office.

Date: 17 Dec. 2001

Signature

Stephen L. Grant

Stephen L. Grant

(type or print name of person certifying)

FEE FOR CLAIMS

4. The fee for claims (37 C.F.R. 1.16(b)-(d)) has been calculated as shown below:

(Col.1)		(Col. 2)		(Col. 3)	OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For		Present Extra	Rate	Addit. Fee
Total	31 Minus	31	= 0		x \$18 =	\$0
Indep.	9 Minus	9	= 0		x \$84 =	\$0
First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim					+ \$280 =	\$0
					Total Addit. Fee	\$0

No additional fee for claims is required.

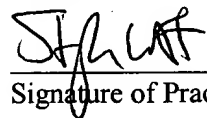
FEE PAYMENT

5. Attached is a check in the sum of \$400.00.

FEE DEFICIENCY

6. If any additional extension and/or fee is required, charge Account No. 15-0450.

Date: 17 Dec. 2001



Signature of Practitioner

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Attorney's Docket 5699-23

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Forbes

Examiner: Jules, F.F.

Ser. No.: ~~09705,506~~ *09705056*

Art Unit: 3617

Title: DROPPED DECK CENTER BEAM RAIL CAR

Filed: 2 November 2000

Date: 17 December 2001

freq
extension
of time
& fee

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This letter is responsive to the Examiner's Office Action of July 9, 2001, and is submitted with a check for a two-month large entity time extension under 37 CFR 1.136 (b), extending the time period for response to **January 9, 2001**. As no claims are added or deleted, no fees are due for excess claims.

IN THE CLAIMS

A clean copy of claim 17 as amended is as follows:

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17. (Amended) A center beam rail road car having a longitudinal centerline and a pair of ends, the rail road car being supported by rail car trucks at either end thereof, said rail road car comprising:

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a cargo support structure borne between the trucks, upon which cargo can be carried, said cargo support structure including a pair of first and second end structures each mounted over a respective one of said trucks, and a medial structure mounted between said trucks, said medial structure being stepped downwardly relative to said end structures;

a web assembly including an array of spaced apart posts mounted at intervals along the longitudinal centerline of the rail road car, said array extending upwardly of said cargo support structure;

an upper beam assembly surmounting said web assembly;

said railroad car having a load limit height defined as the vertical distance measured between said medial structure and said upper beam assembly, and having a nominal load height that is at least as great as the largest integer multiple of 33 inches that is less than the load limit height; and

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